



THE

H. Louis XIV

French King's REASONS

For Owning the Pretended
Prince of Wales,
King of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Communicated in a Letter from Paris, to a Gentleman in London.

It is no wonder you are Inquisitive in England, how His Majesty would Act towards the Prince of Wales, when it pleas'd God to take the King his Father to his Mercy.

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I

I suppose 'tis no News to you, that the Prince Assum'd the Title and Dignity of King of *England*; as soon as his Father the Late King Dy'd, being a Title Devolv'd to him as his Son and Heir. Nor has there been any Difficulty made in *France*, to Own him in that Quality, his most Christian Majesty, having declar'd his Intentions of doing so sometimes before his Father's Death, for Treating him as Prince of *Wales* in his Father's Life time; 'twas a Natural Consequence, that after his Decease, he wou'd call him King of *England*.

Neither do we conceive that any Umbrage can be taken at this, since we don't Apprehend that there lies on Us any Engagement or Obligation to the contrary; That there can none arise from the Treaty of *Reswick* is Obvious enough, since the 11th Article of that Treaty, Imports only his most Christian Majesty shall not Trouble the King of *England* in the Possession of his Dominions; and that he should not either with Troops, Ships, nor any other Supplies, Assist such as would give him a Disturbance.

His Majesty will Punctually Observe this Article, and the Character of King of *England*, which the Prince of *Wales* thought himself indispensably Oblig'd to take after his Father's Death, do's not Entitle him to any Succors from *France*, besides such as his Father receiv'd since the Treaty of *Reswick*, and are design'd only for his Subsistance, and to Condole him under his Misfortunes.

His

His Majesty's Generosity would not permit him to Abandon either the Prince, or his Family and his Majesty (being no Arbitrer between the King of Great Britain, and the Prince of Wales) could not do so Decisive a thing against the latter, as to decline Owning him, by a Title which is Deriv'd to him from his Birth.

It's no New thing to Continue to the Children the Titles of Kingdoms which their Fathers have Lost; it has been done without Scruple by Princes, who at the same time were in Peace with the present Possessors. History Furnishes us with frequent Examples among the King of Naples, and Navar, and not to enlarge on this head: We know that the Kings of Poland, of the House of Vasa, retain'd the Stile of Kings of Sweden, eve till the Peace of Olive, tho that Treaty was made long after their Expulsion, and they had Engag'd in straight Alliances, both with King Gustavus, and Queen Christina in the Interim.

His Majesty has Declar'd, that his Intention is only to Treat the Prince of Wales, with the same Regard he has Express'd towards the Late King his Father, since the Peace of Ryswick; and that he has no Thoughts of Disturbing the Repose of England, on any Pretext whatsoever.

And

And certainly the measures His Majesty has Observ'd at this Conjunction, are both Just, and Exactly Pursuant to his Treaties, as well as to what his Honour requires from him, tho' at the same time it may be Urg'd, that his Neighbours have not always Acted with a suitable Tenderness, in making such Movements, as might be agreeable to His Majesty.



I am, &c.

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